

REMARKS

The Examiner's comments from the Office Action mailed September 4, 2007 have been carefully considered. Claims 1-12 remain pending in the application and claims 13-20 have been newly added. Support for these claims can be found throughout the specification and figures. No new matter has been added.

Reexamination and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating claims 11 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Amendments to the Specification

Editorial revisions have been made to the specification, e.g., to add subject headings. No new matter has been added.

Amendments to the Claims

An editorial revision has been made to claim 1 to delete the word "it." The amendment is not intended to change the scope of claim 1. Editorial revisions also have been made to claims 4, 9, and 10 to address formal matters. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,424,781 to Puetz et al. (hereinafter "Puetz") in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0181922 to Xin et al. (hereinafter "Xin"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites, in part, a cassette mount, which is connected to a front panel. A first group of couplings is arranged on a mounting panel that is arranged to pivot on the cassette mount. A second group of couplings is arranged on a front panel.

Neither Puetz nor Xin disclose or suggest a first group of couplings arranged on a mounting panel that is arranged to pivot with respect to a cassette mount and a second group of couplings arranged on a front panel connected to the cassette mount.

Puetz does not disclose a first group of couplings arranged on a mounting panel and a second group of couplings arranged on a front panel. In fact, Puetz does not disclose a second group of couplings. Rather, Puetz discloses adapters 134 mounted to a pivotal door 324 of a termination module 232. No reason is provided in Puetz or elsewhere for mounting a second group of couplings to the mounting flanges 383 of Puetz or elsewhere in the termination module 232. The mounting flanges 383 support cable clamps 382 for routing cables within the termination module 232.

Xin does not overcome the shortcomings of Puetz. Xin also does not disclose or suggest a first group of couplings arranged on a mounting panel and a second group of couplings arranged on a front panel. None of the adapters disclosed in Xin are arranged on a mounting panel arranged to pivot on a cassette mount. Accordingly, none of the adapters disclosed in Xin can be the first group of couplings recited in claim 1. No reasons is provided in Xin or elsewhere to include two groups of adapters, one group being mounted to a panel arranged to pivot and the other group being mounted to a different panel.

For at least these reasons, Puetz would not lead a person skilled in the art to the invention of claim 1, even in view of Xin. Claims 2-10 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 1-10 are respectfully requested. Applicants do not otherwise concede the correctness of the rejection and reserve the right to make additional arguments if necessary.

New Claims

Claims 13-20 have been newly added. Support for these claims can be found throughout the specification and figures. No new matter has been added.

To the extent the above rejections apply to claims 13-20, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 13 recites, in part, a cassette mount including a storage area on a first side and a splitter coupled to an opposite side of the cassette mount. A mounting panel is coupled to the cassette mount and configured to pivot from a first position covering the storage area to a second position providing access to the storage area. Claim 13 also recites a first glass fiber extending from the second end of one of the couplings of the first plurality to the first end of a first of the couplings of the second plurality; a second glass fiber extending from the second end of one of the couplings of the first plurality to the splitter; a third glass fiber extending from the splitter to the first end of a second of the couplings of the second plurality; and a fourth glass fiber extending from the splitter to the first end of a third of the couplings of the second plurality.

None of the cited references disclose or suggest a mounting panel coupled to a cassette mount and configured to pivot from a first position covering a storage area on a first side of the cassette mount to a second position providing access to the storage area where a coupler is mounted to a second side of the cassette mount. No reason is provided in Puetz, Xin, or elsewhere to add a coupler to an opposite side of the termination module from the pivoting door. Furthermore, no reason is provided in Puetz, Xin, or elsewhere to add a pivoting mounting panel with couplings on an opposite side of the tray framework 101 from the splitter 200.

In addition, none of the cited references disclose or suggest a first glass fiber extending from the second end of one of the couplings of the first plurality to the first end of a first of the couplings of the second plurality; a second glass fiber extending from the second end of one of the couplings of the first plurality to the splitter; a third glass fiber extending from the splitter to the first end of a second of the couplings of the second plurality; and a fourth glass fiber extending from the splitter to the first end of a third of the couplings of the second plurality.

For at least these reasons, Puetz would not lead a person skilled in the art to the invention of claim 13, even in view of Xin. Claims 14-20 depend from claim 13 and are allowable for at least the same reasons. Allowance of claims 13-20 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

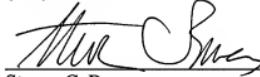
In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



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